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### NEWS RELEASE

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#### **Ex-Con, Associates Charged for Mortgage Loan Investment Scheme**

***Investors were told their money was guaranteed to earn 20%, but lost \$40,000 ...***

**SALT LAKE CITY, Utah** – Criminal charges were filed today alleging that three men took \$55,000 in investments from a family claiming the money would be used to place kiosks in shopping malls to generate leads for mortgage loans and loan refinancing. The investors were promised 20% return.

The charges were filed by the Utah Attorney General's office against Robert M. Fain, of Cottonwood Heights, Daron W. LeBlanc, of Orem, and Antonius (Tony) M. Versteeg, of Sandy. Fain was charged with four counts of securities fraud; LeBlanc and Versteeg were each charged with three counts of securities fraud.

According to the charging documents, Leblanc solicited one of the investors, a co-worker, in May 2002. LeBlanc showed the investor a spreadsheet for American Mortgage Alliance (AMA) and said the company would generate a profit. When the investor said he did not have money to invest, LeBlanc suggested getting a second mortgage on the investor's home. The investor was later encouraged to take out an additional home loan. His parents also were encouraged to invest.

The investors were not told that Fain had been charged with securities fraud in a 1996 criminal case and had been ordered to pay \$308,850 in restitution in that case, that two of the defendants had previously filed for bankruptcy, and that all the defendants owed unpaid judgments against them.

*Note: all defendants in criminal cases are presumed innocent until they have been found guilty at trial or have pleaded guilty as part of a plea agreement.*